

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY L/EA:EVERVILLE:CB

APPROVED BY EA/PHL:DCUTHELL

EA - MR. HUMMEL (DRAFT)

L - MR. ALDRICH (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, RD

SUBJECT- ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS

FOR SULLIVAN FROM HUMMEL AND ALDRICH

1. BELIEVE WE OVERCAME MAJOR HURDLE YESTERDAY, WHEN LAST
OPPOSITION EVAPORATED THAT HAD BEEN BLOCKING START OF
CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS. THUS WE THINK (FINGERS
CROSSED) THAT WE NEED NOT TRY TO ENGAGE HIGHEST LEVEL
DECISION IN ORDER TO OVERCOME OPPOSITION. WE ARE PROCEEDING
WITH PLANS FOR CONSULTATIONS NEXT WEEK. THESE WILL NOT
RPT NOT BE VIA ROUTE YOU DISCUSSED WITH VALEO, BUT WILL
ENCOMPASS NUMEROUS SEPARATE BRIEFINGS OF KEY AND INTER-
ESTED CONGRESSMEN.

2. CONCERNS NEVERTHELESS PERSIST IN OUR WORKING GROUP
THAT DISCUSSION OF TRADE CONCESSIONS COULD BE POSTPONED,
PENDING FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE TRADE BILL. SIMILAR
CONCERNS MAY WELL ARISE DURING CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS.
WE BELIEVE IT IS INEVITABLE THAT WE WILL HAVE TO HAVE
SATISFACTORY REPLIES TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A) SINCE MARCOS HAS MET THE MOST IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF

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AMERICAN BUSINESS BY ISSUING HIS DECREES, WHY DO WE

HAVE TO SEND A NEGOTIATING TEAM IN JUNE TO BEGIN
NEGOTIATIONS? (WE HAVE BEEN OPERATING HERE ON THE
ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WOULD BE LITTLE POINT IN SENDING A
NEGOTIATING TEAM UNLESS THE TEAM WERE AUTHORIZED TO AT

LEAST EXPLORE TRADE CONCESSIONS, BUT WE SHOULD HAVE YOUR
CLEAR STATEMENT ON THIS, TOO.)

B) WHY WOULD IT NOT BE SUFFICIENT MERELY TO TABLE THE
DRAFT TREATY AND ANNEX AT TRADE AGREEMENT IN JUNE AND
INFORM MARCOS THAT WE HAVE BEGUN CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTA-
TIONS AND WILL BE SENDING A TEAM AS SOON AS WE HAVE
AUTHORITY TO PROCEED WITH DISCUSSION OF TRADE MATTERS?

C) IN THIS REGARD, DO YOU BELIEVE IT WOULD MATTER GREATLY
WHETHER TEAM CAME, SAY IN JULY, OR IN AUGUST OR SEPT.
WHEN WE KNOW MORE ABOUT TRA PROSPECTS?

3. IN SHORT, WE NEED YOUR IMMEDIATE ASSESEMENT, IN
LIGHT OF CURRENT STATUS OF EVENTS BOTH HERE AND IN
MANILA, OF WHETHER OUR FAILURE TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS
IN JUNE WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH
THE PHILIPPINES OR WHETHER THERE ARE ALTERNATIVE
SCENARIOS, SUCH AS THOSE SUGGESTEDS ABOVE WHICH WILL
PRESERVE OUR MOST IMPORTANT INTERESTS. KISSINGER

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